

## **LINUM MCVAUGHII, A NEW SPECIES FROM MEXICO**

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A specimen of *Linum*, collected in the state of Jalisco, Mexico, was recently sent to me for examination by Rogers McVaugh, well known for his studies of the flora of Mexico. His surmise that it might represent a new species was correct, in my opinion, and I take considerable pleasure in describing it and naming it in his honor. The following description is based on the single collection.

***Linum mcvaughii*** C. M. Rogers, sp. nov.

*L. mexicano* affine, sed inflorescentia ramis patentibus, caule porcis suberosis, foliis comparate parvis et numerosis, stylis longioribus et fere omnino connatis.

Coarse, glabrous perennial herb or semishrub, ca 90 cm tall; stem up to 5 mm in diameter and somewhat irregularly corky-rigid below; leaves simple, entire, subcoriaceous, mostly opposite, occasionally whorled below, the uppermost and bracts frequently alternate, all sessile or subsessile, ovate to subcordate, the largest 15 mm long, 7 mm wide, gradually reduced in the inflorescence, also smaller and more dense at the bases of flowering branches and on non-flowering branches; stipular glands present; inflorescence many-flowered, paniculate, more or less leafy, with spreading branches; sepals five, ca 3 mm long, ovate, entire or with a few delicate marginal teeth; petals five, yellow, oblanceolate, ca 10 mm long; stamens five, ca 10 mm long, very closely appressed to the style, with very slender intervening staminodia less than 1 mm long; anthers narrowly elliptic, 1.5-2 mm long; styles five, ca 10 mm long, united nearly to the summit; stigmas capitate; mature fruits and seeds not seen.

Holotype: *R. González T. 466*, 30 Sept., 1971. Alt. 1520 m, bosque de encino y pino en ladera de cerro, entre Cuale y Minas de Oro, Municipio de Talpa, Jalisco, Mexico (MICH).

The new species is illustrated in Fig. 1. It is clearly closely related to a group of three known species, *L. orizabae* Planch., *L. guatemalense* Benth. and *L. mexicanum* H.B.K. (Rogers, *Brittonia* 20: 107-135, 1968). Of the three it most closely resembles the last. *Linum mexicanum* is also the only one of the three which is so far known from Jalisco. The locality for *L. mcvaughii* lies outside the known range of *L. mexicanum*, however. Fig. 2 shows the distribution of the two species. *Linum mcvaughii* differs from *L. mexicanum* in having corky-ridged stems, more spreading inflorescence branches, smaller, more numerous leaves and longer stamens and styles, the former more closely appressed to the style and the latter united to a greater degree, nearly to the summit.

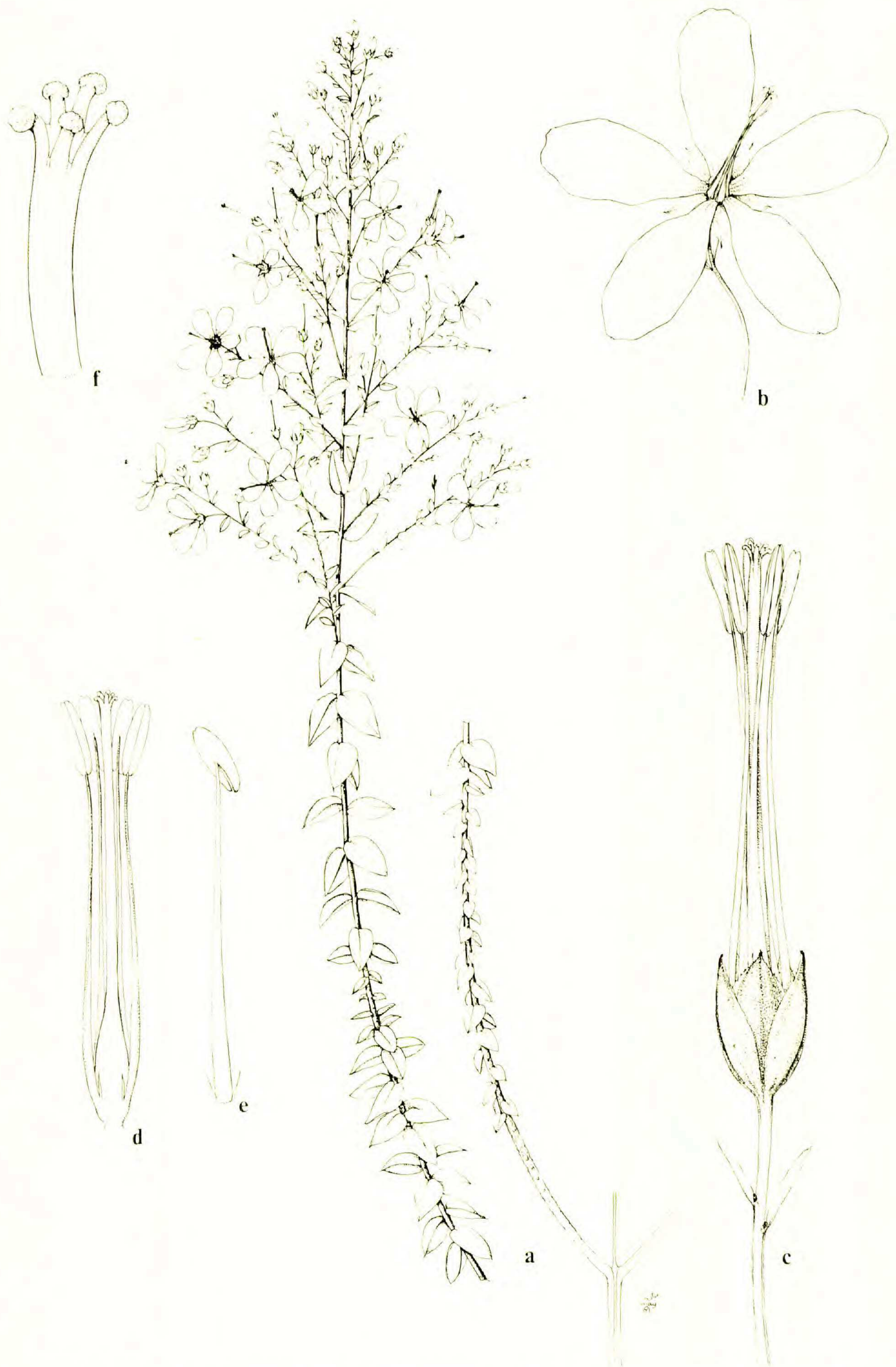


FIG. 1. *Linum mcvaughii*, drawn from the type by Karin Douthit. a, flowering branch  $\times 0.5$ ; b, flower  $\times 2.5$ ; c, old flower with petals fallen  $\times 6$ ; d, androecium and gynoecium  $\times 5$ ; e, anther  $\times 5$ ; f, stigmas  $\times 25$ .



FIG. 2. Distribution of *Linum mexicanum* (circles) and *L. mcvaughii* (triangle).